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EXAMINER

BASHORE, WILLIAM L

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2176

DATE MAILED: 02/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/098,366

Applicant(s)

HIGASHIYAMA ET AL.

Examiner

William L. Bashore

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 November 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-6,9-11,13-15,18-25,27 and 28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-6,9-11,13-15,18-25,27 and 28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 November 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: amendment, filed 11/17/2004 to the original application filed 6/17/1998. Substitute drawings filed 11/22/2004, change of correspondence address filed 12/20/2004.
2. Claims 1, 3-6, 9-11, 13-15, 18-21 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van De Vanter and Fukunaga.
3. The rejection of claims 22, 27-28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Multi-Edit, has been withdrawn as necessitated by amendment.
4. The rejection of claims 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Multi-Edit, and WordPerfect, has been withdrawn as necessitated by amendment.
5. Claims 1, 3-6, 9-11, 13-15, 18-25, 27-28 pending. Claims 7-8, 16-17, 26 have been canceled by Applicant. Claims 1, 10, 15, 21, 22 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

6. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
7. Claim 9 claims dependency upon claim 8. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation(s) within claim 9, since claim 8 has been canceled by Applicant. Since claim 9 appears to have antecedent basis to claim 1, the examiner's suggestion of changing claim 9's dependency to claim 1 will serve to overcome this rejection.

Examiner's Note

8. The following rejections are based upon a possible interpretation of claim 9 as depending upon claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claims 1, 3-6, 9-11, 13-15, 18-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van De Vanter, U.S. Patent No. 5,857,212 issued January 1999, in view of Fukunaga, U.S. Patent No. 5,627,948 issued May 1997.

In regard to independent claim 1, Van De Vanter teaches a location of a cursor over existing text (Van De Vanter column 21 lines 65-67; compare with claim 1(a) “*determining whether a location of a cursor in the electronic document is positioned over existing text*”).

Van De Vanter teaches text editing by managing movement and placement of a cursor relative to text positions (Van De Vanter column 21 lines 65-67, column 12 lines 22-29; compare with claim 1(b) “*...collecting context information regarding the location of the cursor in the electronic document by: if the location of the cursor is positioned over existing text, then collecting context information associated with the existing text*”).

Van De Vanter does not specifically teach collecting said information proximate to cursor location (i.e. not positioned over existing text). However, Fukunaga teaches collecting contextual formatting information of text lines proximate to a cursor position not located over text (Fukunaga Figure 4, also column 3 lines 64-67, column 4 lines 1-10; compare with claim 1(b) “*...if the location of the cursor is not positioned over existing text, collecting context information associated with existing text that is proximate to the location of the cursor*”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Fukunaga to Van De Vanter, because Fukunaga’s taught advantage of collecting format information, providing a way to

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establish format and display correspondence to Van De Vanter (Fukunaga column 1 lines 66-67, column 2 lines 1-2).

Van De Vanter teaches a rule selected from a plurality of rules subsequent to user input (Van De Vanter column 16 lines 65-67, column 17 lines 1-5). Van De Vanter additionally teaches a database associated with token display rules and a whitespace display table (Van De Vanter column 33 lines 18-26, see also Figures 5, 6, column 11 lines 55-58, column 12 lines 23-29). Van De Vanter does not specifically teach associating a rule with formatting steps, as well as matching context information with a trigger, and selecting a coinciding rule. However, these limitations would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, in view of Van De Vanter, because Van De Vanter teaches how a keystroke executive and a tokenizer respond to a “delete net character” command issued by a user, as well as various view preference, syntax, and lexical rules, and a whitespace display table (Van De Vanter column 25 lines 44-50, and Table 6, 7, also Figure 2 item 164). Certain positional rules are selected and implemented which are dependent upon a cursor position, which suggests triggering events and formatting steps eventually resulting in a final position, providing the advantage of rules based triggered events for more accurate modification of position displays (compare with claim 1(c) “*determining whether the collected context information....placing the insertion point in the electronic document*”).

Van De Vanter teaches changing cursor presentation (Van De Vanter column 36 lines 59-67; compare with claim 1(d) “*if the collected context information matches a trigger, changing a presentation of the cursor to indicate...*”). Van De Vanter does not specifically teach indication of formatting types “in close proximity”. However, Fukunaga teaches display of formatting information proximate to cursor location, subsequent to a change in said cursor location (Fukunaga Figures 3, 4 items K, 301-307; compare with claim 1(d) “*....the type of formatting that will be applied to text and objects inserted at the location of the cursor*”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Fukunaga to Van De Vanter, because Fukunaga’s taught advantage of format change and display, providing a way to easily show formatting changes to Van De Vanter (Fukunaga column 1 lines 66-67, column 2 lines 1-2).

Van De Vanter teaches the use of cursor movement and placement management (Van De Vanter column 12 lines 22-29; compare with claim 1(e) “*determining whether an indication has been received to place the insertion point in the electronic document*”).

Van De Vanter teaches a method whereby a cursor is positioned in a displayed program for editing purposes (Van De Vanter column 12 lines 58-63). Van De Vanter does not specifically teach performing formatting. However, Fukunaga teaches performing formatting relative to cursor placement (Fukunaga Figures 3, 4 items K, 301-307; compare with claim 1(f) “*if an indication has been received, then performing formatting based on the formatting steps to place the insertion point in the electronic document at the location of the cursor*”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Fukunaga to Van De Vanter, because Fukunaga’s taught advantage of format change and display, providing a way to easily show formatting changes to Van De Vanter (Fukunaga column 1 lines 66-67, column 2 lines 1-2).

Additionally, it is noted that Van De Vanter teaches a method of alignment markers placed around tokens for centering lines, and automatic aligning between lines (Van De Vanter column 39 lines 9-23).

In regard to dependent claim 3, Van De Vanter teaches various types of mouse clicks that can be used in the embodiment of the invention as disclosed by Van De Vanter (Van De Vanter column 9 lines 42-44; compare with claim 3).

In regard to dependent claim 4, Van De Vanter does not specifically teach the repeating of steps 1(a) - 1(f) of amended claim 1 upon no indication of cursor placement. However, Van De Vanter teaches repeating the visual offset calculation of alignment markers (Van De Vanter abstract at bottom, also column 42 lines 54-57; compare with claim 4). Claim 4 would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, in view of Van De Vanter, because of Van De Vanter’s taught advantage of repetition, providing a way to display a complete formatting change to the method as taught by Van De Vanter.

In regard to dependent claim 5, Van De Vanter does not specifically teach a method of formatting comprising the addition/deletion of document formatting properties. However, Fukunaga teaches the changing of format properties (Fukunaga Figures 3, 4, also column 4 lines 8-10; compare with amended claim 5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply the teaching of Fukunaga to the method of Van De Vanter, because of Fukunaga's taught advantage of format changing, providing increased textual correctness to the method as taught by Van De Vanter.

In regard to dependent claim 6, Van De Vanter teaches localized lexical analysis performed subsequent to an insertion point defining a position of user editing, said position indicated by a cursor over text (Van De Vanter column 4 lines 25-33, column 21 lines 65-67; compare with amended claim 6).

In regard to dependent claim 9, a computer-readable medium (ie. diskette, hard disk, etc.) is known in the software art.

In regard to independent claim 10, claim 10 incorporates substantially similar subject matter as claimed in claim 1, and in further view of the following, is rejected along the same rationale.

Van De Vanter teaches a location of a cursor over existing text (Van De Vanter column 21 lines 65-67; compare with claim 10(a) "*determining whether a location of a cursor in the electronic document is positioned over existing text*").

Van De Vanter teaches text editing by managing movement and placement of a cursor relative to text positions (Van De Vanter column 21 lines 65-67, column 12 lines 22-29; compare with claim 10(b) "*collecting context information regarding the location of the cursor in the electronic document by: if the location of the cursor is positioned over existing text, then collecting context information associated with the existing text*").

Van De Vanter does not specifically teach collecting said information proximate to cursor location. However, Fukunaga teaches collecting contextual formatting information of text lines proximate to a cursor position not located over text (Fukunaga Figure 4, also column 3 lines 64-67, column 4 lines 1-10; compare

with claim 10(b) “*if the location of the cursor is not positioned over existing text, collecting context information associated with existing text that is proximate to the location of the cursor*”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Fukunaga to Van De Vanter, because Fukunaga’s taught advantage of collecting format information, providing a way to establish format and display correspondence to Van De Vanter (Fukunaga column 1 lines 66-67, column 2 lines 1-2).

Van De Vanter teaches a rule selected from a plurality of rules subsequent to user input (Van De Vanter column 16 lines 65-67, column 17 lines 1-5; compare with claim 10(c) “*applying the collected context information...*”, and “*...to determine whether the collected information coincides with one of the plurality of rules*”). Van De Vanter also teaches the use of a database for storing lexical rules (see Van De Vanter column 11 lines 54-57; compare with claim 10(c) “*...to a database of a plurality of rules...*”).

In addition, Van De Vanter teaches a method of cursor selection and display based upon insertion point position resulting in different editing behaviors and cursor presentations (Van De Vanter column 36 lines 59-67, column 37 lines 1-2; compare with claim 10(d) “*if so, then determining one of a plurality of cursors associated with the coinciding rule, wherein the cursor...at the location of the cursor*”, and 10(e) “*displaying the associated cursor...formatting indicated by the cursor*”).

Additionally, it is noted that Van De Vanter teaches a method of alignment markers placed around tokens for centering lines, and automatic aligning between lines (Van De Vanter column 39 lines 9-23).

In addition to the above, Van De Vanter teaches a rule selected from a plurality of rules subsequent to user input (Van De Vanter column 16 lines 65-67, column 17 lines 1-5). Van De Vanter additionally teaches a database associated with token display rules and a whitespace display table (Van De Vanter column 33 lines 18-26, see also Figures 5, 6, column 11 lines 55-58, column 12 lines 23-29). Van De Vanter does not specifically teach associating a rule with formatting steps, as well as matching context information with a trigger, and selecting a coinciding rule. However, these limitations would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, in view of Van De Vanter, because Van De Vanter teaches how a keystroke executive and a tokenizer respond to a “delete net character” command issued by a user, as well as various view preference, syntax, and lexical rules, and a whitespace display table (Van De Vanter column 25 lines 44-50, and

Table 6, 7, also Figure 2 item 164). Certain positional rules are selected and implemented which are dependent upon a cursor position, which suggests triggering events and formatting steps eventually resulting in a final position, providing the advantage of rules based triggered events for more accurate modification of position displays.

In regard to dependent claim 11, Van De Vanter teaches the presentation of an I-beam cursor based upon the position of an insertion point in the document (Van De Vanter column 37 lines 19-24; compare with claim 11).

In regard to dependent claim 13, Van De Vanter does not specifically teach the repeating of steps 10(a) - 10(e) of amended claim 10 upon movement of cursor placement. However, Van De Vanter teaches repeating the visual offset calculation of alignment markers (Van De Vanter abstract at bottom, also column 42 lines 54-57; compare with claim 13). Claim 13 would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, in view of Van De Vanter, because of Van De Vanter's taught advantage of repetition, providing a way to display a complete formatting change to the method as taught by Van De Vanter.

In regard to dependent claim 14, claim 14 reflects the computer program product comprising computer readable instructions used for implementing the methods as claimed in claim 13, and is rejected using the same rationale.

In regard to independent claim 15, claim 15 incorporates substantially similar subject matter as claimed in claim 10, and in further view of the following, is rejected along the same rationale.

Van De Vanter teaches a location of a cursor over existing text (Van De Vanter column 21 lines 65-67; compare with claim 15(a) "*determining whether a location of a cursor in the electronic document is positioned over existing text*").

Van De Vanter teaches text editing by managing movement and placement of a cursor relative to text positions (Van De Vanter column 21 lines 65-67, column 12 lines 22-29; compare with claim 15(b) “*collecting context information regarding the location of the cursor in the electronic document by: if the location of the cursor is positioned over existing text, then collecting context information associated with the existing text*”).

Van De Vanter does not specifically teach collecting said information proximate to cursor location. However, Fukunaga teaches collecting contextual formatting information of text lines proximate to a cursor position not located over text (Fukunaga Figure 4, also column 3 lines 64-67, column 4 lines 1-10; compare with claim 15(b) “*if the location of the cursor is not positioned over existing text, collecting context information associated with existing text that is proximate to the location of the cursor*”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Fukunaga to Van De Vanter, because Fukunaga’s taught advantage of collecting format information, providing a way to establish format and display correspondence to Van De Vanter (Fukunaga column 1 lines 66-67, column 2 lines 1-2).

Van De Vanter teaches a rule selected from a plurality of rules subsequent to user input (Van De Vanter column 16 lines 65-67, column 17 lines 1-5) Van De Vanter teaches a rule selected from a plurality of rules subsequent to user input (Van De Vanter column 16 lines 65-67, column 17 lines 1-5). Van De Vanter additionally teaches a database associated with token display rules and a whitespace display table (Van De Vanter column 33 lines 18-26, see also Figures 5, 6, column 11 lines 55-58, column 12 lines 23-29). Van De Vanter does not specifically teach associating a rule with formatting steps, as well as matching context information with a trigger, and selecting a coinciding rule. However, these limitations would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, in view of Van De Vanter, because Van De Vanter teaches how a keystroke executive and a tokenizer respond to a “delete net character” command issued by a user, as well as various view preference, syntax, and lexical rules, and a whitespace display table (Van De Vanter column 25 lines 44-50, and Table 6, 7, also Figure 2 item 164). Certain positional rules are selected and implemented which are dependent upon a cursor position, which suggests triggering events and formatting steps eventually resulting in a final position, providing the advantage of rules based triggered events for more accurate modification of position displays (compare with claim 15(c) “*applying the collected context information...*”, and

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“...to determine whether the collected information coincides with one of the plurality of rules”). Van De Vanter also teaches the use of a database for storing lexical rules (Van De Vanter column 11 lines 54-57; compare with claim 15(c) *“...to a database of a plurality of rules...”*).

In addition, Van De Vanter teaches a method of matching an I-beam cursor relevant to various insertion point positions (Van De Vanter column 36 lines 64-67, column 37 lines 1-3; compare with claim 15(d) *“if so, then adjusting the location of the insertion point to the location of the cursor based upon the coinciding rule”*, and 15(e) *“displaying the cursor.... the insertion point.”*).

Additionally, it is noted that Van De Vanter teaches a method of alignment markers placed around tokens for centering lines, and automatic aligning between lines (Van De Vanter column 39 lines 9-23).

In regard to dependent claim 18, a computer-readable medium (ie. diskette, hard disk, etc.) is known in the software art.

In regard to dependent claim 19, Van De Vanter teaches a method of a token stream, whereby dynamic user input results in updating insertion points and cursor positions of each dynamic editing action which can be used with a mouse (Van De Vanter column 4 lines 25-35, column 9 lines 42-44).

In regard to dependent claim 20, Van De Vanter teaches a method of an insertion point defining an actual editing location, said cursor location and analysis is updated subsequent to a user edit (Van De Vanter column 4 lines 25-35).

In regard to independent claim 21, claim 21 incorporates substantially similar subject matter as claimed in claim 15, and in further view of the following, is rejected along the same rationale.

Van De Vanter teaches a location of a cursor over existing text (Van De Vanter column 21 lines 65-67; compare with claim **21(a)** “*determining whether a location of a cursor in the electronic document is positioned over an existing line*”).

Van De Vanter teaches text editing by managing movement and placement of a cursor relative to text positions (Van De Vanter column 21 lines 65-67, column 12 lines 22-29; compare with claim **21(b)** “*collecting context information regarding the location of the cursor in the electronic document by: if the location of the cursor is positioned over an existing line, then collecting context information associated with the existing line*”).

Van De Vanter does not specifically teach collecting said information proximate to cursor location. However, Fukunaga teaches collecting contextual formatting information of text lines proximate to a cursor position not located over text (Fukunaga Figure 4, also column 3 lines 64-67, column 4 lines 1-10; compare with claim **21(b)** “*if the location of the cursor is not positioned over the existing line, collecting context information associated with an existing line that is proximate to the location of the cursor*”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Fukunaga to Van De Vanter, because Fukunaga’s taught advantage of collecting format information, providing a way to establish format and display correspondence to Van De Vanter (Fukunaga column 1 lines 66-67, column 2 lines 1-2).

Van De Vanter teaches a rule selected from a plurality of rules subsequent to user input (Van De Vanter column 16 lines 65-67, column 17 lines 1-5). Van De Vanter additionally teaches a database associated with token display rules and a whitespace display table (Van De Vanter column 33 lines 18-26, see also Figures 5, 6, column 11 lines 55-58, column 12 lines 23-29). Van De Vanter does not specifically teach associating a rule with formatting steps, as well as matching context information with a trigger, and selecting a coinciding rule. However, these limitations would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, in view of Van De Vanter, because Van De Vanter teaches how a keystroke executive and a tokenizer respond to a “delete net character” command issued by a user, as well as various view preference, syntax, and lexical rules, and a whitespace display table (Van De Vanter column 25 lines 44-50, and Table 6, 7, also Figure

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2 item 164). Certain positional rules are selected and implemented which are dependent upon a cursor position, which suggests triggering events and formatting steps eventually resulting in a final position, providing the advantage of rules based triggered events for more accurate modification of position displays (compare with claim 21(c) “*determining whether the collected context information....placing the insertion point in the electronic document*”).

Van De Vanter teaches changing cursor presentation (Van De Vanter column 36 lines 59-67; compare with claim 21(d) “*in response to selecting the rule, changing a presentation of the cursor to indicate...*”). Van De Vanter does not specifically teach indication of formatting types in close proximity. However, Fukunaga teaches display of formatting information proximate to cursor location, subsequent to a change in said cursor location (Fukunaga Figures 3, 4 items K, 301-307; compare with claim 21(d) “*...the type of formatting that will be applied to text and objects inserted at the location of the cursor*”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Fukunaga to Van De Vanter, because Fukunaga’s taught advantage of format change and display, providing a way to easily show formatting changes to Van De Vanter (Fukunaga column 1 lines 66-67, column 2 lines 1-2).

Van De Vanter teaches the use of cursor movement and placement management (Van De Vanter column 12 lines 22-29; compare with claim 21(e) “*determining whether an indication has been received to place the insertion point in the electronic document*”).

Van De Vanter teaches a method whereby a cursor is positioned in a displayed program for editing purposes (Van De Vanter column 12 lines 58-63). Van De Vanter does not specifically teach performing formatting. However, Fukunaga teaches performing formatting relative to cursor placement (Fukunaga Figures 3, 4 items K, 301-307; compare with claim 21(f) “*if so, then performing formatting based on the selected rule to place the insertion point in the electronic document at the location of the cursor*”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Fukunaga to Van De Vanter, because Fukunaga’s taught advantage of format change and display, providing a way to easily show formatting changes to Van De Vanter (Fukunaga column 1 lines 66-67, column 2 lines 1-2).

Additionally, it is noted that Van De Vanter teaches a method of alignment markers placed around tokens for centering lines, and automatic aligning between lines (Van De Vanter column 39 lines 9-23).

In regard to independent claim 22, claim 22 incorporates substantially similar subject matter as claimed in claim 1, and is rejected along the same rationale.

11. **Claims 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van De Vanter and Fukunaga, as claimed in claim 22 above, and further in view of WordPerfect for Windows version 6.1 (hereinafter WordPerfect), released 4/15/1996 by Corel Corporation, screenshots from application, pp. 1-10.**

In regard to dependent claims 23-25, Van De Vanter does not specifically teach adding paragraph and other marks vertical and horizontal, as well as context information. However, WordPerfect teaches formatting adjustments for including text and text markers, as well as context information (i.e. new tab, paragraph, and space markers) proximate to (i.e. horizontal and vertical) an input cursor, in the present case, blank2.txt (WordPerfect pp. 8-10). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply WordPerfect to Van De Vanter, providing Van De Vanter the benefit of various contextual markers for better planning layout of a document.

12. **Claims 27-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van De Vanter and Fukunaga, as claimed in claim 22 above, and further in view of Multi-Edit Text Editor Version 8.0 (hereinafter Multi-Edit), April 29, 1998 by American Cybernetics, application screenshots pp. 1-10.**

In regard to dependent claims 27-28, Van De Vanter does not specifically teach a GUI representation corresponding to “no existing text”, as well as outside of an end of document marker. However, Multi-Edit

teaches a graphical representation of a document showing areas before and after an >>EOF<< marker in a document (Multi-Edit page 7-8). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Multi-Edit to Van De Vanter, providing Van De Vanter the benefit of such a display for a more pleasing appearance.

Response to Arguments

13. Applicant's arguments filed 11/17/2004 have been fully and carefully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues on page 8 of the amendment that the cited references do not teach the claimed limitations of representative claim 1 (in particular "*changing a presentation of the cursor...based on the selected rule to place the insertion point in the electronic document at the location of the cursor*" as claimed, as well as matching a "trigger" associated with a rule in a database of rules, said rule associated with formatting, etc. (page 8 of amendment – at middle). It is respectfully noted that Van De Vanter teaches that its "I-beam" can vary the top and bottom (horizontal) parts of said I-beam to reflect size of the visual whitespace gap in which it is positioned, along with various context (Van De Vanter column 36 lines 59-67 to column 37 lines 1-35). The changing of shape and presentation can coincide with commands of the editor (i.e. not responding when a user strikes a spacebar, and cursor blinking – see Van De Vanter column 37 lines 24-28).

Please note that Van De Vanter column 36 lines 59-67 states in pertinent part "...the insertion point can appear in six different contexts, which are indexed and described in Table 3. Since each of these insertion positions may produce different editing behavior (refer to preceding Tables 4-8), the TDP modifies the basic cursor I-beam shape to differentiate the various insertion points. In the preferred embodiment, the TDP 170 varies the top and bottom (horizontal) parts of the I-beam to reflect size of the visual whitespace gap in which it is positioned." Van De Vanter continues on column 37 lines 1-27 further explaining said differentiation. The I-beam cursor changes shape to reflect the amount of whitespace gap (positions 1, 3, 4). If the gap is wide, the horizontal bars of the I-beam will span the entire whitespace length. This signals the user the type of formatting

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that will be applied; if the delete key is pressed, the entire whitespace area (as defined by the I-beam length) will be affected (see Van De Vanter column 37 lines 14-19).

Additionally, a cursor in position 5, 6, and 4 will darken or brighten to indicate presence of provisional separators. The blinking of the cursor in positions 5, 6, and 4 signals the user of what will happen (the editor will not respond, and no formatting is to be applied) (see Van De Vanter column 37 lines 19-27). Van De Vanter changes the presentation of a cursor for the purpose of letting the user know the present formatting situation, and (as explained above, as well as Van De Vanter column 37 lines 28-31) signaling to the user what the system will do pending certain key press operations (i.e. delete key press, etc.).

It is respectfully noted that Van De Vanter's specialized actions and cursor presentations can be fairly interpreted as based upon selection of a set of "rules". Since Van De Vanter teaches "rules" as explained in the rejection of claim 1, the cursor's behavior is at least dependent upon said rules. Therefore, said cursor follows the rule of changing shape accordingly when positioned as explained above. It is also noted that Van De Vanter additionally teaches a database of rules (associated with at least a whitespace table). In order for Van De Vanter to function, the various rules must be "triggered" in some fashion, either automatically and/or with user intervention.

Fukunaga teaches performing formatting relative to cursor placement, as necessary (see Fukunaga Figures 3, 4 items K, 301-307).

Conclusion

14. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

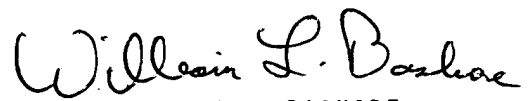
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extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William L. Bashore whose telephone number is (571) 272-4088. The examiner can normally be reached on 11:30am - 8:00pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Feild can be reached on (571) 272-4090. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


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